AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 1, 1999

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999-2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1677

Introduced by Committee Consumer Protection, on Governmental **Efficiency** and Economic **Development** (Davis (Chair), Leach (Vice Chair), Cox, Lempert, Machado, and Wesson)

March 16, 1999

An act to amend Sections 101, 4996.21, 5000, 5030, 5133, and 7646 of, and to repeal Section 7647 of, the Business and An act to amend Sections 101, 4980.45, 4982, 4986.70, 4987.5, 4988.1, 4988.2, 4990.5, 4992.3, 4996.21, 4998, 5000, 5030, 5070.5, 5070.6, 5133, 7646, 7685.2, and 7685.3 of, to amend and renumber Sections 4987.8, 4987.9, 4998.3, 4998.4, 4998.5, 4998.6, and 4998.7 of, to repeal and add Sections 4987.6 and 4998.1 of, and to repeal Sections 4987.7, 4998.2, and 7647 of, the Business and Professions Code, to amend Section 13401 of the Corporations Code, and to amend Sections 7055 and 7100 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to professions and vocations.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1677, as amended, Davis. Professions and vocations.

Existing law provides for a State Board of Accountancy in the Department of Consumer Affairs.

This bill would change the name of the board to the California Board of Accountancy. It would also *revise certain license renewal provisions and* make technical changes.

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Existing law establishes the Board of Behavioral Sciences and requires it to administer and enforce the law regulating the practice of marriage, family and child counseling and clinical social work. Existing law requires that an applicant for a clinical social workers license demonstrate specified experience as a prerequisite to examination, including experience gained under the supervision of a licensed mental health professional.

This bill would require that the experience gained under the supervision of a licensed mental health professional be provided by a person acceptable to the board. The bill would define unprofessional conduct as applied to those licensees of the board to include a failure to keep records consistent with sound clinical judgment, the standards of the profession, and the nature of the services being rendered. The bill would also revise provisions relating to professional corporations for those professions, and would recast and make various technical and clarifying changes to provisions relating to those professions.

The Funeral Directors and Embalmers Law provides for the licensure and regulation of embalmers, as specified. An applicant for an embalmer's license is required to pass an examination, including certain subjects, which is given by the department as the successor to the board.

This bill would instead require an applicant for an embalmer's license to pass an examination administered by the Conference of Funeral Service Examining Board, which would be given not less than 4 times annually, as specified. The bill would make other related changes.

Existing law requires a declaration of specific instructions to be signed and dated by a person arranging for a cremation and the funeral director.

This bill would additionally authorize an employer or agent of a funeral establishment in charge of arranging or prearranging the cremation to sign that declaration. The bill would make related and technical changes.

A violation of the Funeral Directors and Embalmers Law is a misdemeanor. In enlarging the scope of persons subject to the requirements of that law and thereby increasing the number of persons potentially subject to criminal sanction for _3 _ AB 1677

violating those requirements, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law authorizes the transportation of deceased human remains, without a permit, by an officer of a medical college if the remains have been donated to the medical college.

This bill would specifically authorize that transportation of deceased human remains within and between counties.

Existing law provides that the right to control the disposition of remains of a deceased person, the location and conditions of internment and arrangements for funeral goods and services, unless otherwise specified by decedent, vests in certain persons, in a specific order.

This bill would recast this provision.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no-yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 101 of the Business and
- 2 Professions Code is amended to read:
- 3 101. The department is comprised of:
- 4 (a) The Board of Dental Examiners of California.
- 5 (b) The Medical Board of California.
- 6 (c) The State Board of Optometry.
- 7 (d) The California State Board of Pharmacy.
- 8 (e) The Veterinary Medical Board.
- 9 (f) The California Board of Accountancy.
- 10 (g) The California State Board of Architectural
- 11 Examiners.

- (h) The State Board of Barbering and Cosmetology.
- 13 (i) The Board for Professional Engineers and Land
- 14 Surveyors.
- 15 (j) The Contractors' State License Board.

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- 1 (k) The State Board of Funeral Directors and 2 Embalmers.
- 3 (l) The Structural Pest Control Board.
- 4 (m) The Bureau of Home Furnishings and Thermal 5 Insulation.
 - (n) The Board of Registered Nursing.
- 7 (o) The Board of Behavioral Science Examiners.
- 8 (p) The State Athletic Commission.
- 9 (q) The Cemetery Board.
- 10 (r) The State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind.
- 11 (s) The Bureau of Security and Investigative Services.
- 12 (t) The Court Reporters Board of California.
- 13 (u) The Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric 14 Technicians.
- 15 (v) The California State Board of Landscape 16 Architects.
- 17 (w) The Bureau of Electronic and Appliance Repair.
- 18 (x) The Division of Investigation.
 - (y) The Bureau of Automotive Repair.
- 20 (z) The State Board of Registration for Geologists and 21 Geophysicists.
- 22 (aa) The State Board of Nursing Home
- 23 Administrators.

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- 24 (ab) The Respiratory Care Examining Committee.
- 25 (ac) The Acupuncture Examining Committee.
- 26 (ad) The Board of Psychology.
- 27 (ae) The California Board of Podiatric Medicine.
- 28 (af) The Physical Therapy Board.
- 29 (ag) The Arbitration Review Program.
- 30 (ah) The Committee on Dental Auxiliaries.
- 31 (ai) The Hearing Aid Dispensers Examining
- 32 Committee.
- 33 (aj) The Physician Assistant Examining Committee.
- 34 (ak) The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology 35 Board.
- 36 (al) The Tax Preparers Program.
- 37 (am) Any other boards, offices, or officers subject to its 38 jurisdiction by law.
- 39 SEC. 2. Section 4980.45 of the Business and
- 40 Professions Code is amended to read:

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licensed professional 1 4980.45. (a) A in private practice who is a marriage, family, and child counselor, a psychologist, a clinical social worker, a licensed physician certified in psychiatry by the American Board of 5 Psychiatry and Neurology, or a licensed physician who has completed a residency in psychiatry and who is described in subdivision (f) of Section 4980.40 may supervise or employ, at any one time, no more than two marriage, family, and child counselor unlicensed registered interns in that private practice. 10

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- marriage, family, and child counseling 12 corporation, as defined in Section 4987.5, may employ, at any one time, no more than two registered interns for each employee or shareholder who is qualified to provide supervision pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 4980.40. 16 In no event shall any corporation employ, at any one time, more than 10 registered interns. In no event shall any supervisor supervise, at any one time, more than two registered interns. Persons who supervise interns shall be employed full time by the professional corporation and shall be actively engaged in performing professional services at and for the professional corporation. Employment and supervision within a marriage, family, and child counseling corporation shall be subject to all regulations 25 laws and governing experience and supervision gained in a private practice setting.
- (c) Within 30 days of employment and within 30 days 28 of termination of employment, in any allowable work setting, a registered intern shall notify the board in 30 writing employment or termination of the employment. The notice shall include the name of the 32 registered intern, the full name and business address of the employer, the type of work setting where the intern 34 is gaining hours of experience, and the date employment 35 commenced or terminated. If an intern fails to notify the 36 board within 30 days after the date of his or her employment or termination of employment, the board shall not accept any hours of experience gained during that period of employment prior to notification for the purposes of meeting the experience requirements

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licensure. The board may, at its discretion, waive this requirement when it believes good cause "Employment," as used in this section, means the gaining 4 of hours of experience in an allowable setting as an 5 employee or as a volunteer. This subdivision does not apply to hours gained on or after January 1, 1994.

SEC. 3. Section 4982 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4982. The board may refuse to issue any registration 10 or license, or may suspend or revoke the license or registration of any registrant or licensee if the applicant, licensee, or registrant has been guilty of unprofessional conduct. Unprofessional conduct shall include, but not be 14 limited to:

(a) The conviction of a crime substantially related to 16 the qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensee or registrant under this chapter. The record of conviction 18 shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred. The board may inquire into the 20 circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is substantially related qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensee or 24 registrant under this chapter. A plea or verdict of guilty 25 or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere made 26 to a charge substantially related to the qualifications, 27 functions, or duties of a licensee or registrant under this chapter shall be deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section. The board may order any license 30 or registration suspended or revoked, or may decline to issue a license or registration when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or, when an order granting probation is made 34 suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code 36 allowing any such person to withdraw a plea of guilty and enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or indictment.

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(b) Securing a license or registration by fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation on any application for licensure or registration submitted to the board, whether engaged in by an applicant for a license or registration, or by a licensee in support of any application for licensure or registration.

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- (c) Administering to himself or herself any controlled substance or using of any of the dangerous drugs specified in Section 4211, or of any alcoholic beverage to the extent, 10 or in a manner, as to be dangerous or injurious to the person applying for a registration or license or holding a registration or license under this chapter, or to any other person, or to the public, or, to the extent that the use 14 impairs the ability of the person applying for or holding a registration or license to conduct with safety to the 16 public the practice authorized by the registration or license, or the conviction of more than one misdemeanor any felony involving the use, consumption, self-administration of any of the substances referred to in this subdivision, or any combination thereof. The board shall deny an application for a registration or license or revoke the license or registration of any person, other than one who is licensed as a physician and surgeon, who uses or offers to use drugs in the course of performing marriage, family, and child counseling services.
 - (d) Gross negligence or incompetence the performance of marriage, family, and child counseling.
 - (e) Violating, attempting to violate, or conspiring to violate any of the provisions of this chapter or any regulation adopted by the board.
 - (f) Misrepresentation as to the type or status of a license or registration held by the person, or otherwise misrepresenting or permitting misrepresentation of his professional education, qualifications, professional affiliations to any person or entity.
- (g) Impersonation of another by any 37 registrant, or applicant for a license or registration, or, in the case of a licensee, allowing any other person to use his or her license or registration.

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(h) Aiding or abetting, or employing, directly indirectly, any unlicensed or unregistered person engage in conduct for which a license or registration is required under this chapter.

- (i) Intentionally or recklessly causing physical emotional harm to any client.
- (j) The commission of any dishonest, corrupt, fraudulent act substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensee or registrant.
- (k) Engaging in sexual relations with a client, or a former client within two years following termination of therapy, soliciting sexual relations with a client, or committing an act of sexual abuse, or sexual misconduct 14 with a client, or committing an act punishable as a sexually related crime, if that act or solicitation is 16 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a marriage, family, and child counselor.
- (1) Performing, or holding one's self out as being able 19 to perform, or offering to perform, or permitting any registered trainee or registered intern under supervision to perform, any professional services beyond the scope of the license authorized by this chapter.
- (m) Failure to maintain confidentiality, except 24 otherwise required or permitted by law, all 25 information that has been received from a client in confidence during the course of treatment information about the client which is obtained from tests or other means.
- (n) Prior to the commencement of treatment, failing 30 to disclose to the client or prospective client the fee to be charged for the professional services, or the basis upon which that fee will be computed.
- (o) Paying, accepting, or soliciting any consideration, 34 compensation, or remuneration, whether monetary or otherwise, for the referral of professional clients. All 36 consideration, compensation, or remuneration shall be in relation to professional counseling services actually provided by the licensee. Nothing in this subdivision shall prevent collaboration among two or more licensees in a 40 case or cases. However, no fee shall be charged for that

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collaboration, except when disclosure of the fee has been made in compliance with subdivision (n).

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- (p) Advertising in a manner which is false, misleading, or deceptive.
- (q) Reproduction or description in public, or in any publication subject to general public distribution, of any psychological test or other assessment device, the value of which depends in whole or in part on the naivete of the subject, in ways that might invalidate the test or device.
- (r) Any conduct in the supervision of any registered intern or registered trainee by any licensee that violates this chapter or any rules or regulations adopted by the board.
- (s) Performing or holding one's self out as being able 15 to perform, professional services beyond the scope of 16 one's competence, as established by one's education, training, or experience. This subdivision shall not be 18 construed to expand the scope of the license authorized by this chapter.
- (t) Permitting a registered trainee registered 21 intern under one's supervision or control to perform, or permitting the registered trainee or registered intern to hold one's self out as competent to perform, professional services beyond the registered trainee's or registered intern's level of education, training, or experience.
- (u) The violation of any statute regulation governing the gaining and supervision of experience 28 required by this chapter.
- (v) Failure to keep records consistent with sound clinical judgment, the standards of the profession, and the 31 nature of the services being rendered.
- SEC. 4. Section 4986.70 of the **Business** and 33 Professions Code is amended to read:
- 34 4986.70. The board may refuse to issue a license, or 35 may suspend or revoke the license of any licensee if he or 36 she has been guilty of unprofessional conduct which has
- endangered or is likely to endanger the health, welfare,
- 38 or safety of the public. Unprofessional conduct includes,
- but is not limited to, the following:

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- (a) Conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of an educational psychologist, the record of conviction being conclusive evidence thereof.
 - (b) Securing a license by fraud or deceit.
- (c) Using any narcotic as defined in Division 10 6 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code or any hypnotic drug or alcoholic beverage 9 to an extent or in a manner dangerous to himself or 10 herself, or to any other person, or to the public and to an extent that such action impairs his or her ability to perform his or her work as a licensed educational 12 psychologist with safety to the public. 13
 - (d) Improper advertising.
- (e) Violating or conspiring to violate the terms of this 16 article.
- (f) Committing a dishonest or fraudulent act as a 18 licensed educational psychologist resulting in substantial 19 injury to another.
- (g) Denial of licensure, revocation, suspension, 21 restriction, or any other disciplinary action imposed by 22 another state or territory or possession of the United 23 States, or by any other governmental agency, on a license, practice registration 24 certificate, or to educational 25 psychology or any other healing art, shall constitute 26 unprofessional conduct. A certified copy of the 27 disciplinary action, decision, or iudgment shall 28 conclusive evidence of that action.
- (h) Revocation, suspension, or restriction by the board 30 of a license, certificate, or registration to practice as a clinical social worker or marriage, family and child 32 counselor shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action unprofessional conduct against the licensee 34 registrant under this chapter.
- (i) Failure to keep records consistent with sound 35 36 clinical judgment, the standards of the profession, and the nature of the services being rendered. 37
- SEC. 5. Section 4987.5 of the Business and Professions 38 39 *Code is amended to read:*

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1 4987.5. A marriage, family, and child counseling 2 corporation is a corporation—which that is registered with the Board of Behavioral Sciences and has a currently effective certificate of registration from the board pursuant to the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation 5 Act, as contained in Part 4 (commencing with Section 6 13400) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code, 8 and this article. Subject to all applicable statutes, rules 9 and regulations, the marriage, family, and child counseling corporation is entitled to practice marriage, 10 family, and child counseling. authorized to render professional services, as defined in Section 13401 of the 12 13 Corporations Code, so long as that corporation and its 14 shareholders, officers, directors, employees and rendering professional services who are marriage, family, 15 physicians 16 and child counselors, and surgeons, 17 psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, registered nurses, chiropractors, acupuncturists 18 orare compliance Moscone-Knox 19 with the **Professional** 20 Corporation Act (Part 4 (commencing with Section 13400) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code), 21 22 this article, and any other statute or regulation pertaining to that corporation and the conduct of its affairs. 24 respect to a marriage, family, and child counseling corporation, the governmental agency referred to in the 25 Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act is the Board 27 of Behavioral Sciences. 28

SEC. 6. Section 4987.6 of the Business and Professions 29 Code is repealed.

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4987.6. An applicant for registration as a marriage, family, and child counseling corporation shall supply to the board all necessary and pertinent documents and information requested by the board concerning the applicant's plan of operation. The board may provide forms of application. If the board finds that the 36 corporation is duly organized and existing pursuant to the General Corporation Law, that, except as provided in Section 13403 of the Corporations Code, each officer, director, shareholder and each employee who will render professional services is a licensed person as defined in the **AB 1677** <u> — 12 —</u>

Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act, and that from the application it appears that the affairs of the corporation will be conducted in compliance with law and the rules and regulations of the board, the board shall, 5 upon payment of the registration fee in such amount as it may determine, issue a certificate of registration. The 6 application shall be signed and verified by an officer of 8 the corporation.

SEC. 7. Section 4987.6 is added to the Business and 10 Professions Code, to read:

4987.6. It shall constitute unprofessional conduct and a violation of this chapter for any person licensed under this chapter to violate, attempt to violate, directly or 14 indirectly, or assist in or abet the violation of, or conspire 15 to violate, any provision or term of this article, the 16 Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act (Part 4 (commencing with Section 13400) of Division 3 of Title 18 1 of the Corporations Code), or any regulations duly adopted under those laws.

SEC. 8. Section 4987.7 of the Business and Professions 21 Code is repealed.

4987.7. Each marriage, family, and child counseling 23 corporation shall file with the board, annually and at such other times as the board may require, a report containing 25 such information pertaining to qualification and compliance with the statutes, rules and regulations of the board as the board may determine. The fee for filing such a report shall be fixed by the board. All reports shall be signed and verified by an officer of the corporation.

SEC. 9. Section 4987.8 of the Business and Professions Code is amended and renumbered to read:

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4987.7. The name of a marriage, family, and child 34 counseling corporation shall contain one or more of the words "marriage," "family," and "child" together with 36 one or more of the words "counseling" or "counseling," "counselor," or "therapist," and wording or abbreviations denoting corporate existence. A marriage, family, and counseling corporation that conducts under a fictitious business name shall not use any name **—13** — **AB 1677**

which is false, misleading or deceptive, and shall inform

the patient, prior to the commencement of treatment,

that the business is conducted by a marriage, family, and child counseling corporation.

5 10. Section 4987.9 of the Business SEC. Professions Code is amended and renumbered to read: 6 7 4987.9.

4987.8. Except as provided in Section 13403 of the 8 Corporations Code, each director, shareholder, 10 officer of a marriage, family, and child counseling corporation shall be a licensed person as defined in the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act. 12

11. Section 4988.1 of the **Business** 14 Professions Code is amended to read:

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4988.1. A marriage, family, and child counseling 15 16 corporation shall not do or fail to do any act the doing of which or the failure to do which would constitute 17 18 unprofessional conduct under any statute, rule 19 regulation now or hereafter in effect. In the conduct of its 20 practice, it shall observe and be bound by such statutes, 21 rules and regulations to the same extent as a person 22 holding a license under Section 4980.50. The board shall 23 have the same powers of suspension, revocation and 24 discipline against a marriage, family, and child counseling 25 corporation as are now or hereafter authorized by Section 26 4982, or by any other similar statute against individual 27 licensees, provided, however, that proceedings against a 28 marriage, family, and child counseling corporation shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 30 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and the board shall have all the powers granted therein as a marriage, family, 33 and child counselor.

34 12. Section 4988.2 of the SEC. **Business** 35 Professions Code is amended to read:

4988.2. The board may formulate and enforce rules and regulations to carry out the purposes and objectives 37 of this article, including rules and regulations requiring (a) that the articles of incorporation or bylaws of a marriage, family, and child counseling corporation shall

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include a provision whereby the capital stock of such corporation owned by a disqualified person (as defined in the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act), or a deceased person, shall be sold to the corporation or to the remaining shareholders of such corporation within such time as such rules and regulations may provide, and (b) that a marriage, family, and child counseling corporation as a condition of obtaining a certificate pursuant to the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act and this 10 article shall provide adequate security by insurance or otherwise for claims against it by its patients arising out of the rendering of professional services. 12 13

SEC. 13. Section 4990.5 the **Business** 14 Professions Code is amended to read:

4990.5. Each member of the board, except the 16 members first appointed, shall be appointed for a term of four years and shall hold office until the appointment and 18 qualification of his or her successor or until one year shall have elapsed since the expiration of the term for which she was appointed, whichever first occurs. Vacancies occurring shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term.

The Governor shall appoint four of the public members 24 and the five licensed members qualified as provided in Section 4990.4 4990.3 with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Senate Rules Committee and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint a public member, and their initial appointment shall be made fill. respectively. public member the first and second vacancies which occur on or after January 1, 1983.

31 14. Section 4992.3 of the Business 32 Professions Code is amended to read:

4992.3. The board may refuse to issue a registration or 34 a license, or may suspend or revoke the license or registration of any registrant or licensee if the applicant, 36 licensee, or registrant has been guilty of unprofessional conduct. Unprofessional conduct includes, but is limited to:

(a) The conviction of a crime substantially related to 39 the qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensee or **— 15 — AB 1677**

registrant under this chapter. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred. The board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if 5 conviction is substantially related 6 qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensee or registrant under this chapter. A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere made 10 to a charge substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensee or registrant under this chapter is a conviction within the meaning of this section. 12 may 13 board order any license or registration 14 suspended or revoked, or may decline to issue a license or registration when the time for appeal has elapsed, or 15 the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, 17 or, when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing the person to withdraw a plea of guilty and enter a plea of not 21 guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or indictment. 23

(b) Securing a license or registration by fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation on any application for licensure or registration submitted to the board, whether engaged in by an applicant for a license or registration, or by a licensee in support of any application for licensure or registration.

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(c) Administering to himself or herself any controlled 30 substance or using of any of the dangerous drugs specified in Section 4211, or of any alcoholic beverage to the extent, or in a manner, as to be dangerous or injurious to the person applying for a registration or license or holding a registration or license under this chapter, or to any other 34 person, or to the public, or, to the extent that the use 36 impairs the ability of the person applying for or holding a registration or license to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by the registration or license, or the conviction of more than one misdemeanor any felony involving the use, consumption,

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self-administration of any of the substances referred to in this subdivision, or any combination thereof. The board shall deny an application for a registration or license or revoke the license or registration of any person who uses or offers to use drugs in the course of performing clinical social work. This provision does not apply to any person also licensed as a physician and surgeon under Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 2000) or the Osteopathic Act who lawfully prescribes drugs to a patient under his or her 10 care.

- (d) Gross negligence or incompetence in the performance of clinical social work.
- (e) Violating, attempting to violate, or conspiring to 14 violate this chapter or any regulation adopted by the 15 board.
 - (f) Misrepresentation as to the type or status of a license or registration held by the person, or otherwise misrepresenting or permitting misrepresentation of his qualifications, education, professional professional affiliations to any person or entity. subdivision, this this misrepresentation purposes of includes, but is not limited to, misrepresentation of the person's qualifications as an adoption service provider pursuant to Section 8502 of the Family Code.
 - (g) Impersonation of another by any licensee, registrant, or applicant for a license or registration, or, in the case of a licensee, allowing any other person to use his or her license or registration.
 - (h) Aiding or abetting any unlicensed or unregistered person to engage in conduct for which a license or registration is required under this chapter.
 - (i) Intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client.
- (j) The commission of any dishonest, corrupt, 35 fraudulent act substantially related to the qualifications, 36 functions, or duties of a licensee or registrant.
- (k) Engaging in sexual relations with a client, soliciting 38 sexual relations with a client, or committing an act of sexual abuse, or sexual misconduct with a client, or committing an act punishable as a sexually related crime,

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if that act or solicitation is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a clinical social worker.

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- (1) Performing, or holding one's self out as being able to perform, or offering to perform or permitting, any registered associate clinical social worker or intern under supervision to perform any professional services beyond the scope of the license authorized by this chapter.
- (m) Failure to maintain confidentiality, all 10 otherwise required or permitted bv law. of information that has been received from a client in during the course of treatment and confidence information about the client which is obtained from tests 14 or other means.
- (n) Prior to the commencement of treatment, failing 16 to disclose to the client or prospective client the fee to be charged for the professional services, or the basis upon which that fee will be computed.
- (o) Paying, accepting, or soliciting any consideration, 20 compensation, or remuneration, whether monetary otherwise, for the referral of professional clients. All consideration, compensation, or remuneration shall be in relation to professional counseling services provided by the licensee. Nothing in this subdivision shall prevent collaboration among two or more licensees in a case or cases. However, no fee shall be charged for that collaboration, except when disclosure of the fee has been made in compliance with subdivision (n).
 - (p) Advertising in a manner which is false, misleading, or deceptive.
 - (q) Reproduction or description in public, or in any publication subject to general public distribution, of any psychological test or other assessment device, the value of which depends in whole or in part on the naivete of the subject, in ways that might invalidate the test or device.
 - (r) Any conduct in the supervision of any registered associate clinical social worker or intern by any licensee that violates this chapter or any rules or regulations adopted by the board.

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(s) Failure to keep records consistent with sound clinical judgment, the standards of the profession, and the nature of the services being rendered.

- of the 4 SEC. 15. Section 4996.21 **Business** and 5 Professions Code is amended to read:
 - 4996.21. The experience required by subdivision (c) of Section 4996.2 shall meet the following criteria:
 - (a) On or after January 1, 1999, a registrant shall have least 3,200 hours of post-master's supervised by a licensed clinical social worker. providing clinical social work services as permitted by Section 4996.9. Experience shall consist of the following:
- 2,000 (1) A minimum of hours in psychosocial 14 diagnosis, assessment, and treatment, including psychotherapy and counseling.
 - (2) A maximum of 1,200 hours in client-centered advocacy, consultation, evaluation, and research.
- (3) Experience shall have been gained in not less than 19 two nor more than six years and shall have been gained within the six years immediately preceding the date on which the application for licensure was filed.
 - (b) Notwithstanding the requirements of subdivision (a), up to 1,000 hours of the required experience may be gained under the supervision of a licensed mental health professional acceptable to the board.
 - (1) Supervision means responsibility for and control of the quality of clinical social work services being provided.
 - (2) Consultation shall not be considered he supervision.
- (3) Supervision shall include at least one hour of direct supervisor contact for each week of experience claimed and shall include at least one hour of direct supervisor contact for every 10 hours of client contact in each setting 34 where experience is gained. Not less than one-half of the 35 hours of required supervision shall be individual 36 supervision. The remaining hours may be supervision. For purposes of this section, "one hour of 38 direct supervisor contact" means one hour of face-to-face contact on an individual basis or two hours of face-to-face contact in a group setting of not more than eight persons.

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(4) The supervisor and the supervisee shall develop a 1 supervisory plan that describes the goals and objectives of supervision. These goals shall include the ongoing assessment of strengths and limitations and the assurance 5 of practice in accordance with the laws and regulations. The associate shall submit to the board the initial 6 supervisory plan within 30 days of commencement of supervision. The supervisor shall submit to the board within 30 days of termination of supervision evidence of 10 satisfactorily completed supervised experience by the 11 supervisee.

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- (c) A "private practice setting" is any setting other 13 than a governmental entity, a school, college, university, a nonprofit and charitable corporation, a licensed health facility, as defined in Sections 1250, 1250.2, and 1250.3 of the Health and Safety Code, a social rehabilitation facility or a community treatment facility, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 1502 of the Health and Safety Code, a pediatric day health and respite care 20 facility, as defined in Section 1760.2 of the Health and 21 Safety Code, or a licensed alcoholism or drug abuse 22 recovery or treatment facility, as defined in Section 11834.02 of the Health and Safety Code.
 - (1) In a setting that is not a private practice, a registrant shall be employed on either a voluntary or paid basis.
 - (2) If volunteering, the registrant shall provide the board with a letter from his or her employer verifying his or her voluntary status upon application for licensure.
 - (3) If employed, the registrant shall provide the board with copies of his or her W-2 tax forms for each year of experience claimed upon application for licensure.
- (d) Employment in a private practice setting shall not 34 commence until the applicant has been registered as an associate clinical social worker. A registrant employed in a private practice setting shall not do any of the following:
- 37 (1) Pay his or her employer or supervisor for 38 supervision, and shall receive fair remuneration from his or her employer.

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- (2) Receive any remuneration from patients or clients and shall only be paid by his or her employer.
- (3) Perform services at any place except where the registrant's employer regularly conducts business.
- (4) Have any proprietary interest in the employer's 6 business.
- (e) A person employed in a setting other than a private practice setting may obtain supervision from a person not employed by the registrant's employer if that 10 person has signed a written agreement with the employer to take supervisory responsibility for the registrant's social work services.

SEC. 3.

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SEC. 16. Section 4998 of the Business and Professions 15 *Code is amended to read:*

4998. "Licensed clinical social workers corporation" is 17 a corporation that is registered with the Board of 18 Behavioral Sciences and has a currently effective 19 certificate of registration from the board pursuant to the 20 Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act and this 21 article. Subject to all applicable statutes, rules, and 22 regulations, the licensed clinical social workers 23 corporation is entitled to practice clinical social work. A clinical social worker 24 licensed corporation 25 corporation that is authorized to render professional 26 services, as defined in Section 13401 of the Corporations 27 Code, so long as that corporation and its shareholders, officers, directors, and employees rendering professional services who are licensed clinical social workers. 30 physicians and surgeons, psychologists, marriage, family, 31 and child counselors, registered nurses, chiropractors, or 32 acupuncturists are in compliance with the Moscone-Knox 33 Professional Corporation Act (Part 4 (commencing with 34 Section 13400) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations 35 Code), this article, and all other statutes and regulations 36 now or hereafter enacted or adopted pertaining to that corporation and the conduct of its affairs. With respect 38 to a licensed clinical social workers corporation, the 39 governmental agency referred to in the Moscone-Knox

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1 Professional Corporation Act is the Board of Behavioral 2 Sciences.

- SEC. 17. Section 4998.1 of the Business and Professions Code is repealed.
- 4998.1. An applicant for registration as a licensed clinical social workers corporation shall supply to the board all necessary and pertinent documents and information requested by the board concerning the applicant's plan of operation. The board may provide forms of application. The board shall issue a certificate of registration if the applicant satisfies the following requirements:
 - (a) The corporation is duly organized and existing pursuant to the General Corporation Law.
 - (b) Except as provided in Section 13403 of the Corporations Code, each officer, director, shareholder and each employee who will render professional services is a licensed person as defined in the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act.
 - (c) From the application it appears that the affairs of the corporation will be conducted in compliance with the law and the rules and regulations of the board.
 - (d) The applicant pays a registration fee in such amount as the board may determine.
 - The application shall be signed and verified by an officer of the corporation.
 - SEC. 18. Section 4998.1 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:
- 29 4998.1. It shall constitute unprofessional conduct and 30 a violation of this chapter for any person licensed under
 - 1 this chapter to violate, attempt to violate, directly or
- 32 indirectly, or assist in or abet the violation of, or conspire
- 33 to violate, any provision or term of this article, the
- 34 Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act (Part 4
- 35 (commencing with Section 13400) of Division 3 of Title
- 36 1 of the Corporations Code), or any regulations duly
- 37 adopted under those laws.

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- 38 SEC. 19. Section 4998.2 of the Business and
- 39 Professions Code is repealed.

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1 4998.2. Each licensed clinical social workers corporation shall file with the board annually and at such other times as the board may require a report containing such information pertaining to qualification and compliance with the statutes, rules, and regulations of the 5 board as the board may determine. The fee for filing a 6 report shall be fixed by the board. All reports shall be signed and verified by an officer of the corporation. 9

20. Section 4998.3 of the Business 10 Professions Code is amended and renumbered to read: 4998.3.

4998.2. Notwithstanding Section 4996, the name of a 13 licensed clinical social workers corporation and any name or names under which it may be rendering professional services shall contain the words "licensed clinical social 16 workers" worker" and wording or abbreviations denoting corporate existence.

A licensed clinical social workers corporation that 19 conducts business under a fictitious business name shall not use any name which is false, misleading, or deceptive, and shall inform the patient, prior to the commencement of treatment, that the business is conducted by a licensed clinical social workers corporation.

of the 21. Section 4998.4 24 SEC. **Business** and 25 Professions Code is amended and renumbered to read: 26 4998.4.

27 4998.3. Except as provided in Section 13403 of the 28 Corporations Code, each director. shareholder. officer of a licensed clinical social workers worker corporation shall be a licensed person as defined in the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act.

32 SEC. 22. Section 4998.5 of the **Business** and Professions Code is amended and renumbered to read: 33 34 4998.5.

35 4998.4. The income of a licensed clinical social 36 workers worker corporation attributable to professional services rendered while a shareholder is a disqualified 38 person, as defined in the Moscone-Knox Professional 39 Corporation Act (Part 4 (commencing with Section 13400) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code), — 23 — AB 1677

1 shall not in any manner accrue to the benefit of that 2 shareholder or his or her shares in the licensed clinical 3 social workers corporation.

4 SEC. 23. Section 4998.6 of the Business and 5 Professions Code is amended and renumbered to read: 6 4998.6.

7 4998.5. A licensed clinical social workers corporation shall not do or fail to do any act the doing of which or the failure to do which would constitute unprofessional 10 conduct under any statute, rule, or regulation now or hereafter in effect. In the conduct of its practice, it shall 12 observe and be bound by those statutes, rules, and 13 regulations to the same extent as a person holding a 14 license under Section 4996.1. The board shall have the same powers of suspension, revocation, and discipline 16 against a licensed clinical social workers corporation as are now or hereafter authorized by Section 4996.11, or by 17 any other similar statute against individual licensees. 19 Proceedings against a licensed clinical social workers 20 corporation shall be conducted in accordance with 21 Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of 22 Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and the board shall have all the powers granted in that chapter as a licensed clinical social worker.

25 SEC. 24. Section 4998.7 of the Business and 26 Professions Code is amended and renumbered to read: 4998.7.

28 4998.6. The board may formulate and enforce rules and regulations to carry out the purposes and objectives of this article, including rules and regulations requiring (a) that the articles of incorporation or bylaws of a licensed clinical social workers corporation shall include a provision whereby the capital stock of that corporation 34 owned by a disqualified person, as defined in the 35 Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act. 36 deceased person, shall be sold to the corporation or to the 37 remaining shareholders of that corporation within such 38 time as the rules and regulations may provide, and (b) that a licensed clinical social workers corporation as a condition of obtaining a certificate pursuant to the **AB 1677 — 24 —**

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Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act and this worker corporation shall provide adequate security by insurance or otherwise for claims against it by its patients arising out of the rendering of professional 5 services.

SEC. 25. Section 5000 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5000. There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs the California Board of Accountancy, which consists of 10 10 members, five of whom shall be certified public accountants, one of whom shall be a public accountant, and four of whom shall be public members who shall not 13 be licentiates of the board or registered by the board. The 14 board has the powers and duties conferred by this chapter.

The Governor shall appoint two of the public members, the five certified public accountant members, and the public accountant member qualified as provided in this section. The Senate Rules Committee and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint a public member. In appointing the five certified public accountant members, the Governor shall appoint members representing a cross 23 section of the accounting profession with at least one 24 member representing a small public accounting firm. For 25 the purposes of this chapter, a small public accounting firm shall be defined as a professional firm that employs a total of no more than four certified public accountants partners, owners, or full-time employees in the practice of public accountancy within the State of 30 California.

This section shall become operative on July 1, 1997, and 32 shall become inoperative on July 1, 2001, and as of January 1, 2002, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that 34 becomes effective on or before January 1, 2002, deletes or 35 extends the dates on which this section becomes 36 inoperative and is repealed. The repeal of this section renders the board subject to the review required by Division 1.2 (commencing with Section 473).

39 SEC. 4. **— 25 — AB 1677**

1 SEC. 26. Section 5030 of the Business and Professions 2 Code is amended to read:

3 5030. "Board" California Board means the 4 Accountancy.

5 SEC. 5.

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SEC. 27. Section 5070.5 of the **Business** and *Professions Code is amended to read:*

5070.5. Permits issued under this chapter expire (a) A permit to practice as a certified public accountant or a public accountant expires at 12 midnight on the last day of the month of the legal birthday of the licensee during the second year of a two-year term if not renewed.

To renew an unexpired permit, a certificate holder or 14 registrant permit holder shall, before the time at which 15 the permit would otherwise expire, apply for renewal on 16 a form prescribed by the board, pay the renewal fee prescribed by this chapter and give evidence satisfactory 18 to the board that he or she has complied with the continuing education provisions of this chapter.

permit practice to as accountancy 21 partnership or an accountancy corporation expires at 12 22 midnight on the last day of the month in which the permit 23 was initially issued during the second year of a two-year 24 term if not renewed. To renew an unexpired permit, the 25 permit holder shall, before the time at which the permit 26 would otherwise expire, apply for renewal on a form 27 prescribed by the board, pay the renewal fee prescribed 28 by this chapter, and provide evidence satisfactory to the 29 board that the accountancy partnership or accountancy 30 corporation is in compliance with this chapter.

28. Section 5070.6 of the Business 32 Professions Code is amended to read:

5070.6. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, 34 an expired permit may be renewed at any time within five years after its expiration on upon the filing of an 36 application for renewal on a form prescribed by the board, payment of all accrued and unpaid renewal fees and on and after December 31, 1974, giving evidence to the board of compliance with the continuing education provisions of this chapter providing evidence satisfactory **AB 1677 — 26 —**

to the board of compliance as required by Section 5070.5.

- If the permit is renewed after its expiration, its holder, as
- a condition precedent to renewal, shall also pay the
- delinquency fee prescribed by this chapter. Renewal
- 5 under this section shall be effective on the date on which
- 6 the application is filed, on the date on which the accrued
- renewal fees are paid, or on the date on which the delinquency fee, if any, is paid, whichever last occurs. If
- so renewed, the permit shall continue in effect through
- 10 the date provided in Section 5070.5 that next occurs after
- the effective date of the renewal, when it shall expire if
- 12 it is not again renewed.
- SEC. 29. Section 5133 of the Business and Professions 14 Code is amended to read:
- 5133. All money in the Accountancy Fund is hereby 16 appropriated to the California Board of Accountancy to carry out the provisions of this chapter. Each member of 17
- the board and each member of a committee shall receive a per diem and expenses as provided in Section 103.
- 20 SEC. 6.

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- 21 SEC. 30. Section 7646 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:
- 23 7646. The program shall require the applicant to pass
- 24 an a national board examination, known as the National 25 Board. administered by the Conference of Funeral
- 26 Service Examining Board a national organization
- 27 approved by the program. The program may add
- additional testing requirements regarding state laws,
- rules, and regulations.
- 30 SEC. 7.
- 31 SEC. 31. Section 7647 of the Business and Professions 32 Code is repealed.
- 33 SEC. 32. Section 7685.2 of the**Business** and 34 Professions Code is amended to read:
- 35 7685.2. (a) No funeral director shall enter into a 36 contract for furnishing services or property in connection
- 37 with the burial or other disposal of human remains until
- 38 he or she has first submitted to the potential purchaser of
- services or property a written printed
- memorandum containing the following information,

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provided that information is available at the time of execution of the contract:

(1) The total charge for the funeral director's services and the use of his or her facilities, including the preparation of the body and other professional services, and the charge for the use of automotive and other necessary equipment.

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- (2) An itemization of charges for the merchandise as selected: the casket, an outside 10 receptacle, and clothing.
- (3) An itemization of fees or charges and the total 12 amount of cash advances made by the funeral director for transportation, flowers, cemetery or crematory charges, clergy 14 newspaper notices, honorarium, transcripts, telegrams, long distance telephone calls, music, and any 16 other advances as authorized by the purchaser.
- (4) An itemization of any other fees or charges not 18 included above.
- (5) The total of the amount specified in paragraphs (1) 20 to (4), inclusive.

If the charge for any of the above items is not known 22 at the time the contract is entered into, the funeral 23 director shall advise the purchaser of the charge therefor, 24 within a reasonable period after the information becomes 25 available. All prices charged for items covered under 26 Sections 7685 and 7685.1 shall be the same as those given 27 under such sections.

(b) A funeral director establishment shall obtain from 29 the person with the right to control the disposition pursuant to Section 7100 of the Health and Safety Code, or the person prearranging the cremation and disposition 32 of his or her own remains, a signed declaration designating specific instructions with respect to the 34 disposition of cremated remains. The department shall 35 make available a form upon which the declaration shall 36 be made. The form shall include, but not be limited to, the names of the persons with the right to control the disposition of the cremated remains and the person who is contracting for the cremation services; the name of the deceased; the name of the funeral director establishment **AB 1677 — 28 —**

possession of the remains; the name of the crematorium; and specific instructions regarding the manner, location, and other pertinent details regarding the disposition of cremated remains. The form shall be signed and dated by the person arranging for the cremation and the funeral director, employee, or agent of the funeral establishment in charge of providing arranging or prearranging the cremation service.

- (c) A funeral director entering into a contract to 10 furnish cremation services shall provide to the purchaser of cremation services, either on the first page of the 12 contract for cremation services, or on a separate page attached to the contract, a written or printed notice 14 containing the following information:
- (1) FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CEMETERY 16 AND CREMATION MATTERS, CONTACT: 17 Department of Consumer Affairs (800) 952-5210.
- (2)—A person having the right to control disposition of 19 cremated remains may remove the remains in a durable 20 container from the place of cremation or interment, pursuant to Section 7054.6 of the Health and Safety Code.

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- (2) If the cremated remains container cannot 24 accommodate all cremated remains of the deceased, the 25 crematory shall provide a larger cremated remains 26 container at no additional cost, or place the excess in a second container that cannot easily come apart from the first, pursuant to Section 8345 of the Health and Safety Code.
- SEC. 30 33. Section 7685.3 of the **Business** Professions Code is amended to read:
- 7685.3. Commencing January 1, 1994, the The current 32 33 address, telephone number, and name of 34 Department of Consumer Affairs, Cemetery and Funeral 35 Programs shall appear on the first page of any contract for 36 goods and services offered by a funeral director. At a minimum, the information shall be in 8-point boldface 37 type and make this statement: 38

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MORE INFORMATION 1 "FOR ON FUNERAL, 2 CEMETERY, AND**CREMATION** MATTERS, **DEPARTMENT** CONTACT: OF **CONSUMER** AFFAIRS, (ADDRESS), (TELEPHONE NUMBER)."

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- SEC. 34. Section 13401 of the Corporations Code is *amended to read:*
 - 13401. As used in this part:
- (a) "Professional services" means any type 10 professional services that may be lawfully rendered only pursuant to a license, certification, or authorized by the Business and Professions Code or the 13 Chiropractic Act.
- (b) "Professional corporation" 14 means a corporation 15 organized under the General Corporation Law 16 pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 13406 that is engaged in rendering professional services in a single 17 18 profession, except as otherwise authorized in Section 19 13401.5, pursuant to a certificate of registration issued by 20 the governmental agency regulating the profession as 21 herein provided and that in its practice or business 22 designates itself as a professional or other corporation as 23 may be required by statute. However, any professional 24 corporation or foreign professional corporation 25 rendering professional services by persons duly licensed 26 by the Medical Board of California or any examining committee under the jurisdiction of the board, the Board 28 of Dental Examiners, the California State Board of 29 Pharmacy, the Veterinary Medical Board, the California 30 Board of Architectural Examiners, the Court Reporters 31 Board of California, the Board of Behavioral Sciences, or 32 the Board of Registered Nursing shall not be required to obtain a certificate of registration in order to render those 34 professional services.
- 35 (c) "Foreign professional corporation" means 36 corporation organized under the laws of a state of the United States other than this state that is engaged in a 38 profession of a type for which there is authorization in the Business and Professions Code for the performance of

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professional services by a foreign professional corporation.

- (d) "Licensed person" means any natural person who 4 is duly licensed under the provisions of the Business and 5 Professions Code or the Chiropractic Act to render the same professional services as are or will be rendered by the professional corporation or foreign professional corporation of which he or she is or intends to become, an officer, director, shareholder, or employee.
- (e) "Disqualified person" means a licensed person for any reason becomes legally disqualified 12 (temporarily or permanently) to render the professional services that the particular professional corporation or 14 foreign professional corporation of which he or she is an officer, director, shareholder, or employee is or was 16 rendering.

SEC. 35. Section 7055 of the Health and Safety Code 18 *is amended to read:*

7055. Every person, other than an officer of a duly 20 accredited medical college engaged in official duties with 21 respect to the body of a decedent who has willfully donated his or her body to the medical college, who for 23 himself or herself or for another person, inters or 24 incinerates a body or permits the same to be done, or 25 removes any remains, other than cremated remains, from 26 the primary registration district in which the death or 27 incineration occurred or the body was found, except a 28 removal by a funeral director in a funeral director's conveyance or an officer of a duly accredited medical 30 college engaged in official duties with respect to the body 31 of a decedent who has willfully donated his or her body 32 to the medical college from that registration district or county to another registration district in or county, or 34 within the same or another county registration district or 35 county, without the authority of a burial or removal 36 permit issued by the local registrar of the district in which the death occurred or in which the body was found; or 38 removes interred human remains from the cemetery in which the interment occurred, or removes cremated 40 remains from the premises on which the cremation

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occurred without the authority of a removal permit is guilty of a misdemeanor and punishable as follows:

- (a) For the first offense, by a fine of not less than ten dollars (\$10) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500).
- (b) For each subsequent offense, by a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500) or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 60 days, or by both.
- SEC. 36. Section 7100 of the Health and Safety Code 10 is amended to read:
- 7100. (a) The right to control the disposition of the remains of a deceased person, the location and conditions of interment, and arrangements for funeral goods and services to be provided, unless other directions have been given by the decedent pursuant to Section 7100.1, vests in, 16 and the duty of disposition and the liability for the reasonable cost of disposition of the remains devolves upon, the following in the order named:
 - (1) An attorney-in-fact under a durable power of attorney for health care executed pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 4600) of Part 4 of Division 4.5 of the Probate Code.
 - (2) The *competent* surviving spouse.

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- (3) The sole surviving competent adult child of the 25 decedent, or if there is more than one competent adult child of the decedent, one-half or more of the majority of the surviving competent adult children. However, less than one-half of the surviving adult children shall be 29 vested with the rights and duties of this section if they 30 have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving 31 competent adult children of their instructions and are not 32 aware of any opposition to those instructions on the part of more than one-half of all surviving competent adult 34 children. For purposes of this section, "adult child" means a competent natural or adopted child of the decedent 36 who has attained 18 years of age.
 - (4) The surviving *competent* parent or parents of the decedent. If one of the surviving competent parents is absent, the remaining competent parent shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section after reasonable

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efforts have been unsuccessful in locating the absent surviving *competent* parent.

- (5) The surviving competent adult person or persons respectively in the next degrees of kindred. If there is 5 more than one surviving competent adult person of the 6 same degree of kindred, the majority of those persons. Less than the majority of surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kindred shall be vested 9 with the rights and duties of this section if those persons 10 have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kindred 12 of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition 13 to those instructions on the part of one-half or more of all 14 surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kindred. 15
- 16 (6) The public administrator when the deceased has 17 sufficient assets.
- (b) (1) If any person to whom the right of control has 19 vested pursuant to subdivision (a) has been charged with 20 first or second degree murder or voluntary manslaughter 21 in connection with the decedent's death and those 22 charges are known to the funeral director or cemetery authority, the right of control is relinquished and passed on to the next of kin in accordance with subdivision (a).
- (2) If the charges against the person are dropped, or 26 if the person is acquitted of the charges, the right of control is returned to the person.
- (3) Notwithstanding this subdivision, no person who 29 has been charged with first or second degree murder or 30 voluntary manslaughter connection in with decedent's death to whom the right of control has not been returned pursuant to paragraph (2) shall have any right to control disposition pursuant to subdivision (a) 34 which shall be applied, to the extent the funeral director 35 or cemetery authority know about the charges, as if that 36 person did not exist.
- (c) A funeral director or cemetery authority shall have 38 complete authority to control the disposition of the remains, and to proceed under this chapter to recover

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usual and customary charges for the disposition, when both of the following apply:

(1) Either of the following applies:

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- (A) The funeral director or cemetery authority that none of the persons described in 5 knowledge paragraphs (1) to (6) (5), inclusive, of subdivision (a) exists.
 - (B) None of the persons described in paragraphs (1) to (6) (5), inclusive, of subdivision (a) can be found after reasonable inquiry, or contacted by reasonable means.
- (2) The public administrator 12 responsibility for disposition of the remains within seven days after having been given written notice of the facts. 14 Written notice may be delivered by hand, U.S. mail, 15 facsimile transmission, or telegraph.
- (d) The liability for the reasonable cost of final disposition devolves jointly and severally upon all kin of 18 the decedent in the same degree of kindred and upon the estate of the decedent. However, if a person accepts the gift of an entire body under subdivision (a) of Section 7155.5, that person, subject to the terms of the gift, shall be liable for the reasonable cost of final disposition of the decedent.
- (e) This section shall be administered and construed to 25 the end that the expressed instructions of the decedent or the person entitled to control the disposition shall be faithfully and promptly performed.
 - (f) A funeral director or cemetery authority shall not be liable to any person or persons for carrying out the instructions of the decedent or the person entitled to control the disposition.
- (g) For purposes of paragraph (5) of subdivision (a), 33 "competent adult" this section, "adult" means an adult 34 individual who has attained 18 years of age, "child" means a natural or adopted child of the decedent, 36 "competent" means an individual who has not been 37 declared incompetent by a court of law or who has been 38 declared competent by a court of law following a declaration of incompetence.

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SEC. 37. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.